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DIRECTORATE OF
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Central Intelligence Bulletin

State Dept. review completed

Top Secret

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4 December 1970

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Approved For Release 2003/10/01 : CIA-RDP79T00975A017700060001-9

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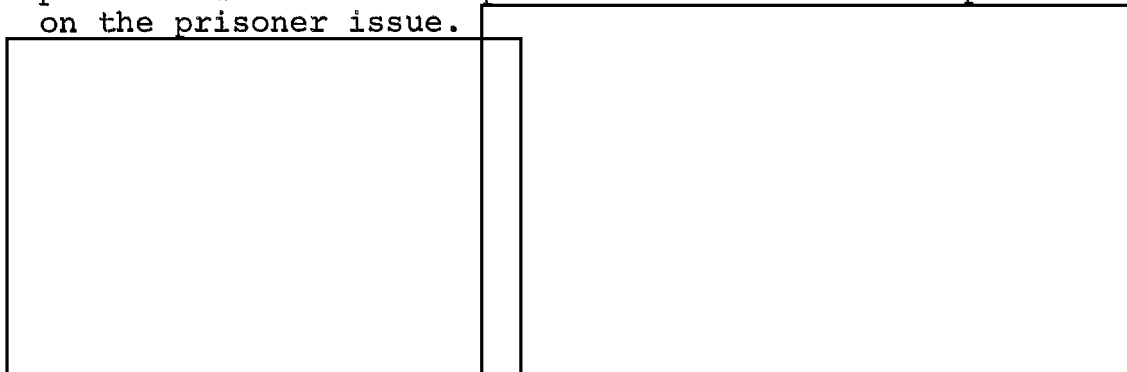
NORTH VIETNAM: [Hanoi may use the current visit of a Canadian journalist to improve its propaganda position on the POW issue.]

[The correspondent, Michael Macleer, is to remain in North Vietnam for several weeks. He will represent Canadian television and The New York Times. Hanoi is quite familiar with Macleer's work; in late 1969 he produced lengthy and somewhat favorable film reports, including an exclusive on Ho's funeral, that were shown widely on Western television.]

[With so much attention focused on American prisoners following the Son Tay affair, Hanoi might see an opportunity to score some public relations points and to ease the pressure that has built up on the prisoner issue.]

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